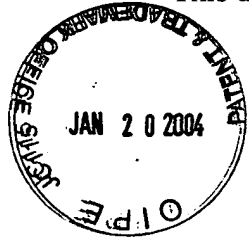


## COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is of the following type:



- ☐ original
- ☐ divisional
- ☐ continuation
- ☒ continuation-in-part

### INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

### BIOCOMPATIBLE IMPLANTS

### SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

The specification of which:

- ☐ filed herewith;
- ☒ was filed on September 16, 2003, under Serial No. 10/663,626;
- ☐ Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_ (Serial No. not yet known)  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)
- ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and as amended under PCT  
Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information I know to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application; namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, and

☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98.

### PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §119)

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119, of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

☒ No such applications have been filed.

☐ Such applications have been filed as follows:

A. Prior foreign/PCT application(s) filed within 12 mos. (6 mos. for design) prior to this application, and any priority claims under 35 U.S.C. §119

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
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<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

B. All foreign application(s), if any, filed more than 12 mos. (6 mos. for design) prior to this U.S. application

Country:

Application No:

Filing date:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC 119(e) of any United States Provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No.

Filing Date

**PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §120)**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120, of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application (namely, information where there is substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

- ☐ No such applications have been filed  
☒ Such application have been filed, as follows:

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>		
		<u>Patented</u>	<u>Pending</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
10/245,821	09/16/02		X	
10/353,622	01/29/03		X	
10/353,613	01/29/03		X	

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Jeffrey L. Streets	Registration No. 37,453
Patrick K. Steele	Registration No. 39,844
Frank J. Campigotto	Registration No. 48,130
Steven L. Christian	Registration No. 38,106

### DECLARATION

*I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and, further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Sec. 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.*

Full name of **sole or first** inventor: Zoran Minevski

Inventor's signature: Zoran Minevski Date: 01-07-2004  
Residence: 27 Sunny Oaks Place  
The Woodlands, Texas 77385  
Post Office Address: same as residence

Country of Citizenship: Yugoslavia

Full name of **second** inventor: Carl Nelson

Inventor's signature: Carl Nelson Date: 01/12/2004  
Residence: 4303 Green Valley  
Bryan, Texas 77802  
Post Office Address: same as residence

Country of Citizenship: USA

(Declaration ends with this page)